NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

Weekly Staff Newsletter
March 5, 1999

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEER PREVIEW OF:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1999
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Ground Floor

Underground Adventure will open to the public March 27. Years in the making, at a cost of $12 million, *Underground Adventure* is much more than an exhibition. It's a 15,000 square-foot total immersion environment, the only place in the world where visitors can walk through a larger-than-life underground soil ecosystem designed with the accuracy of the most sophisticated museum models. Through illusionary magic, we will shrink you to 1/100 your normal size and set you loose on an incredible journey among the life that teems just inches beneath the Earth's surface.

This is your chance to be the first group to travel through the world beneath our feet. Please take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity. Of course, refreshments will be served and the guest list includes the world's greatest Museum staff and volunteers!

Submitted by **Shawn VanDerziel**

FIELD NOTES

Week of March 8

Public Events/Special Events

Museum Open Until 8 p.m. Monday

Nature Camera Club
• Monday 7:30 p.m., LH2

Motorcycle Film Series
• Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

Music Theater Workshop
• Wednesday 5 p.m., Clrm A
Sunday 1 p.m., Clrm C/LH2

Museology
• Thursday 12:30 p.m., Clrm B

Dinosaurs and More
• Saturday & Sunday

Staff/Volunteer Events

Education Volunteer Opportunities Showcase
• Monday morning, Clrm C

Aerobics Class
• Tuesday & Thursday 5 p.m.
Ground Floor, East Stairwell

Tae Bo (Kick Boxing) Lessons
• Wednesday noon & 12:20, LH2

Underground Adventure Staff Preview
• Wednesday 2:30 p.m.

Running Club
• Wednesday 5 p.m., West door

HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATES

New discount program!

All Field Museum staff and volunteers are entitled to receive a 10% discount on regularly priced shoes only at the Chernin's Shoe Store on Roosevelt Road. You will not receive a discount on sale merchandise. In order to receive your discount, just show your ID badge at time of purchase.

New showers!

We are pleased to tell you that the new shower facilities are officially open! There are men's and women's showers, but your ID will only allow you access to the one of your gender. Both stalls in the men's and women's facilities are equipped with an emergency alarm linked directly to Security.

Please follow the "Rules of the Shower":

1. Bring your own towel and toiletries (this isn't the Ritz).
2. Use perfume/cologne/aftershave/hairspray in moderation (consider the environment, if not the others in the room).
3. Shower facilities are not coed.
4. Don't forget to bring your change of clothes into the locker room (nudity in the halls is forbidden).
5. Don't hog the mirror.
6. Limit your shower to five minutes if others are waiting (or even if they aren't; water is a precious resource).
7. Your mother isn't here to clean up after you.
8. No singing in the shower (you are in The Field Museum, not the Lyric).
9. No towel-snapping.
10. All locks left on lockers overnight will be removed (did we ask for a rental fee?).

If you're looking for an excuse to try out the new showers...

- Wednesday, March 10 at 12 noon and 12:20 we will offer 15-minute introductory Tae Bo (kick boxing) lessons in Lecture Hall 2. We will offer them for a month on a trial basis pending interest. There will be two sessions to accommodate more staff.
- Tuesday and Thursday from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. we have aerobic classes on the Ground Floor.
- Wednesday at 5 p.m. the running club meets at the West door. All different ability levels are welcome.
- Bike Racks are now available in the Shipping Dock.

Submitted by **Carole Kasarda**

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Clifford Augustus	Security	15 years
Bob Cantu	Education	25 years
Tom Geary	Finance	20 years
Jessica Newman	Exhibits	20 years
Betty Strack	Scientific Technical Svcs.	10 years
Madelyn Thompson	Corporations /Foundations	10 years

CONGRATULATIONS!

Oprah's doing it! Ally's doing it!

TAE BO classes at The Field!

First class is Wednesday, March 10 in Lecture Hall 2. One fifteen minute class will begin at noon and another will follow at 12:20pm.

No special equipment is needed, but be sure and dress comfortably and bring any toiletries you will need when you hit the showers!

*If you have any health concerns, please see your physician before attending class.
*You will be asked to sign a consent and release form.

MINUTES FROM THIS MONTH'S KAFFEEKLATSCH

Our March meeting was a short but productive meeting. Peter Wagner, Geology, sat in for Larry Heaney, Zoology/Mammals. Marilyn Martinson Croft, HR, informed us about the new Parking Procedures for the North Lot. If you have any comments or suggestions, feel free to put them in our suggestion box. Marilyn also reminded us that next Wednesday, March 10th, is our staff preview for Underground Adventure at 3:00p.m. So remember to mark your calendars!

OUR SUGGESTIONS FROM THE BOX

S: We need a sign at the top of the ramp from Grant Park directing parents and disabled visitors to the West entrance of the Museum. Also, the gray/white signs are very hard to see. Can we make them more obvious?

A: You have stated a very good point. Marilyn will bring this suggestion up in the next VP Docket meeting.

If you have any suggestions/comments, feel free to put them in our suggestion box by the operator on the ground floor.

MOVIE TICKET SURVEY

In Manhattan, the price for a ticket to a movie has reached $9.50 with comparable increases expected across the United States – and that doesn't include popcorn!

The Field Museum is a member of the Corporate Movie Club which allows our staff and volunteers to fill out an order form and purchase discounted tickets to movie theatres. The tickets are then mailed to you. The program requires that you purchase tickets in advance and in minimum quantities of six tickets.

What if you could just come to the Human Resources department and buy the number of movie tickets you want instead of filling out a form and waiting to get your tickets through the mail? Interested? Let us know.

___ Yes, I would take advantage of purchasing discounted movie tickets at work.

___ No, I would not take advantage of purchasing discounted movie tickets at work.

If yes, which theatres do you usually attend?

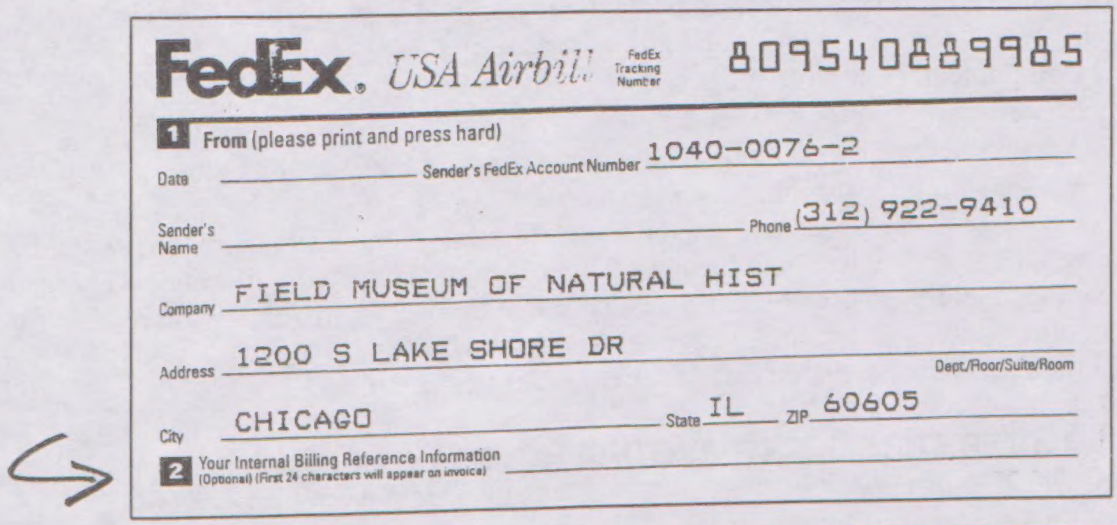
___ Loews/Cineplex Odeon/Sony Theatres ___ General Cinemas

___ AMC Theatres **Please respond by March 19, 1999.**

$$ FINANCE FORUM $$

- Cashier operating hours are now 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- With the new account coding system, the only old system number that is changing is the **Project** number. Project numbers that were formerly **0000** are now **0001**. The Fund Group, Accounting Unit, GL Code, and Fund numbers will be the same numbers that you have been using.

  i.e., an account number that used to be 0000-325-525-**0000**
  will now be 1000-325-525-**0001**-0000
- When completing the Federal Express form, the account number to be charged must be included under Item 2, Internal Billing Reference Information. This number will then appear on the billing statement and can be charged appropriately.


FedEx. USA Airbill FedEx Tracking Number 809540889985

1 From (please print and press hard)

Date _____ Sender's FedEx Account Number 1040-0076-2

Sender's Name _____ Phone (312) 922-9410

Company FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HIST

Address 1200 S LAKE SHORE DR Dept./Floor/Suite/Room

City CHICAGO State IL ZIP 60605

2 Your Internal Billing Reference Information (Optional) (First 24 characters will appear on invoice)

FAN MAIL

Dear Ms. Sanders,

I thank you, once again, for the fine accommodations and the museum privileges you and the Museum extended to me and my friend…..during our recent stay in your fine city, as winners of The Field Museum's *The Art of the Motorcycle* sweepstakes. More appreciative winners could not have been selected, as can be verified by the staff on duty last Sunday. Ask them about the two guys who spent all day examining, from all available angles, each and every motorcycle on display. We certainly slowed the progress of other visitors, who weren't sure just how long to wait before going around us, as we discussed the features and technology of the machines we squatted next to. The exhibit was both aesthetically pleasing and technologically interesting with motorcycles rare and common in fantastic variety. Indeed, the show justified the "hype" presented in the enthusiastic press, and is undoubtedly the most significant collection on public display.

Cordially yours,
Don Neilson

Submitted by **Laurie Sanders**

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

North Carolina curator to study Field Anthropology collections

The Field Museum Department of Anthropology will be benefiting from a Museum Loan Network grant awarded to the North Carolina Museum of Art. They received a grant that will allow their curator to travel to Chicago to study our African, pre-Columbian and Oceanic collections and will pay The Field Museum for related curatorial and collections staff expenses.

NEW FROM PUBLIC SERVICES: $7 PARKING COUPONS

The Public Services Department has purchased $7 parking coupons from Soldier Field Joint Venture as an additional service to departments with minimal parking needs (less than 50 guests). The parking coupons are great for the following:

- Complimentary parking for guests
- Can be mailed with invitations
- A tracking device to determine how many guests are parked in the lot
- You pay only for the number of spaces used

The parking coupons can be used in the North and Soldier Field East Lots. They can be redeemed during and after Soldier Field business hours. An attendant fee will only be charged after regular Soldier Field business hours. (Please note that Soldier Field Joint Venture has two operating schedules, winter and summer. Schedules are detailed below.)

To buy $7 parking coupons, please call **Jacqueline Benitez** at ext. 564.

SOLDIER FIELD JOINT VENTURE HOURS OF OPERATION

Certain lots may be subject to early closure due to inclement weather conditions.

WINTER SCHEDULE: OCTOBER 1 – APRIL 30

	Monday - Friday	Saturday - Sunday
North Lot	**5:30 a.m. – 9 a.m.**	**8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**
East Soldier Field	**7 a.m. – 5 p.m.**	**7 a.m. – 5 p.m.**
Planetarium	**7 a.m. – 4 p.m.** *Friday until 9 p.m.*	**7 a.m. – 4 p.m.**
South Lot	**Event Basis Only**	

SUMMER SCHEDULE: MAY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30

	Monday - Friday	Saturday - Sunday
North Lot	**9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**	**8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**
East Soldier Field	**6 a.m. – 8 p.m.**	**6 a.m. – 8 p.m.**
Planetarium	**7 a.m. – 8 p.m.** *Thursday and Friday until 9 p.m.*	**7 a.m. – 8 p.m.**
South Lot	**8 a.m. – 8 p.m.**	**8 a.m. – 8 p.m.**

Submitted by **Diane White**

Natural News

The *Natural News* is edited by **Rodger Patience** in the Development office (ext. 617, patience@fmnh.org) and **Erica Kelly** in the Finance Department (ext. 584, ekelly@fmnh.org). Submissions are welcome via e-mail or on disk in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect format. The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon. Remember – write early and often!